

Overhanging Vegetation



Householders are responsible for making sure that their hedges, bushes and trees do not overhang or obstruct any pavements or footpaths and now, before the start of the bird nesting season, is a good time to check this.

Overgrown hedges and vegetation cause real problems for people using the footpaths and pavements, especially if they suffer from impaired vision or need a little more space for wheelchairs, mobility scooters or buggies. It can be dangerous if they are forced into the road to avoid the obstruction. If, when you check, you find that your shrubs, hedges or trees are likely to cause a problem for passers-by please make arrangements to cut them back as soon as possible.

Newick Hill Development Update from Thakeham Homes

Following a period of essential site investigative tasks throughout the Summer, Thakeham Homes are now preparing to undertake enabling works prior to the full implementation of our designed scheme. Planned demolition works are nearing completion and we are delighted to report that all archaeology and ecology investigations and reports have been approved by the appointed agencies. The team at Thakeham look forward to working with the local residents of Newick over the next few months, as the works continue towards the construction of the homes. (Received 2nd December 2016)

Changes to Compass Bus Service 31

It has recently been announced that there will be changes to the timetable for the 31 (Uckfield/Haywards Heath) bus service starting 9th January 2017. For details please see the website www.compass-travel.co.uk/service-31-statement. This service is currently under review and Compass will cease to run it on 4th February. ESCC is trying to ensure that the service continues, although it may not be as comprehensive as the existing service.

Parish Council Office

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that it will shortly be opening a Parish Office at Newick Community Centre on The Green. The Parish Clerk will be based at the office and it will be open for a short time each week to members of the public who wish to report a problem or make an enquiry. Further details of opening hours will be in the next edition of this newsletter.

Parish Council Budget 2017/18

The Parish Council has recently agreed its budget for the 2017/18 financial year which starts in April 2017. The budget, which can be viewed on the Newick.net website (look under Parish Council/Financial documents), has resulted in a request to Lewes District Council for funding of £55,394. Some of this amount will be met by a grant, the remainder will appear on your Council Tax bill under the heading 'Newick Parish Council'. The Parish Council element of the bill for a Band D property will show a fifty seven pence (1.2%) increase on the amount for 2016/17. This increase takes account of falling income e.g bank interest and support grants, and rising costs.

PARISH COUNCILLORS:

Mr. Mario Halsey
Dr Ben Horsfall
Mrs. Jean Sheppard
Mrs. Jenny Smerdon (Chairman)

NB All correspondence for Newick Parish Council should be sent to the Clerk (see contact details below)

DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Jim Sheppard Tel:724478
J.sheppard3@btinternet.com

Newick Parish Council

Mrs Sue Berry (Clerk)
18 Newlands Park Way,
Newick, BN8 4PG
01825 722135
Email: newickpc@newick.net



Your Newick Parish Council Newsletter Winter 2016/17



Councillor Resignations

It is with great sadness that we have to report that several of our experienced and hard-working councillors resigned at the Parish Council meeting in November. Nick Berryman, Chris Armitage, Chris Jago, Cathy Wickens and Melanie Thew, together with Rich Allum all resigned as a direct result of the recent planning decision. I am sure the parishioners will want to join the Council in thanking them for their hard work over many years.

We shall also miss Cris Allen who resigned recently because he was moving away. Now we are four! We are quorate and those remaining have stepped up and will, with the help of our very able Clerk, Sue Berry, continue the business of the Parish. We look forward to welcoming new members on to the Council over the next few months.

Jenny Smerdon Chairman

Parish Council Vacancies

There are currently seven vacancies for councillors to join Newick Parish Council.

The Parish Council has been advised that it may 'co-opt' new members to fill these vacancies. This means that the remaining members of the Parish Council will decide at the January Parish Council meeting which of the applicants is most suitable to be asked to join them as a member of the Council.

If you are interested in looking after the interests of your community and helping to shape its future at this very important time, please consider putting yourself forward to be co-opted as a member of the Parish Council. The Council is particularly in need of councillors with a business or financial background or those who have an interest in planning matters. Sue Berry, Clerk to the Parish Council, will be happy to give you more information about what the Parish Council does, what would be expected of you as a councillor and the application process.

The deadline for applications from those wishing to be co-opted is Friday 20th January 2017.

Contact details:- newickpc@newick.net or telephone 01825 722135 during office hours.

Christmas tree on The Green

The Parish Council would like to thank local residents, John and Jill Baillieux, for kindly donating our village Christmas tree this year. Thanks also to Tom, Hannah and the team at **Southern Events**, a local company based in Jackies Lane, for felling, transporting and decorating the tree free of charge. Finally, thanks to Baroness and Mr Cumberlege for providing the power source for the tree lights. Hopefully you will agree that the tree looked great and provided suitable festive cheer to the village centre.



Small grants for local organisations

£ Each year the Parish Council includes in its budget a small amount to be awarded in grants to local clubs, societies or organisations which can demonstrate a need for financial support either towards day to day running costs or for a specific project. Further details of the Parish Council's grant awarding policy and an application form can be provided by the Clerk. Grant applications for 2017/18 will be considered by the Parish Council at its meeting at the end of May. For further information please contact the Clerk.

Newick Post Office

We are back to square one with the Post Office as we have been unable to find anyone willing to take it on, quite understandable when they realise just how much it involves.

I am now dealing with my third Post Office contact in eighteen months. I told the new contact that, rather than lose the Post Office altogether, I was looking into the idea of an Outreach Post Office which would come to Newick for two hours a week. He replied that it would not work because with the volume of customers in Newick it would be overwhelmed. I asked, if that was the case, why were they taking our Post Office away? He said they weren't taking our Post Office away, they were trying to find new premises.

I then sent him chapter and verse explaining what had been going on over the last 18 months and about which he appeared to be unaware.

Meanwhile, poor Terry keeps struggling on!

Cllr. Jean Sheppard

Neighbourhood Watch Update

As I said in the Autumn Parish Newsletter, now our P.C.S.O. has gone, I no longer hear about any crimes or anti social behaviour in Newick. The only information I get is from local people who contact me to let me know about things that have happened to them.



A resident in Marbles Road was unloading his van on September 23rd at about 10.30. p.m. He turned away to put his cat indoors and in those few seconds someone stole a camera and photo equipment from the back of his van.

I had a phone call from a lady on December 5th. She rang to say that about half an hour earlier a man had banged on her door and called through her letter box asking if she wanted to buy an aerial photo of her house. Sensibly she ignored him. I rang 101 straight away and said if they had a patrol car in the vicinity could they drive round to see if they could see him. I was told no, the incident would just be put on file as no crime had been committed.

If you should hear of any suspicious activities or are a victim of crime in Newick, please let me know so I can warn people on the NHW email list. If I do get any news about Newick from the police I will, of course, pass it on.

*Cllr Jean Sheppard, Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator
01825 724478 jcsheppard3@btinternet.com*

GREAT NEWS!

THE NEW 1 ACRE ALLOTMENT SITE AT CORNWELLS BANK WILL BE READY IN THE NEW YEAR

The site will be divided into plots of two different sizes
Full sized plots will be approximately 120m²
Half plots will be approximately 60m²

The smaller plots on the site near to Cricketfield will continue

**Would you like to grow your own veg?
Then please register your interest in having a plot with
Newick Allotment Society
Secretary:- Kirsty Taylor kt.nas@btinternet.com**



Cllr. Jenny Smerdon